

The Public Lands History Center Newsletter

Volume 5, Number 1, Summer 2014

Message From the Council

Dear Friends of the PLHC,

It is always rewarding to send out the PLHC's annual newsletter, and this year we've been particularly busy!

We continue to engage in research and reporting for national parks and monuments to help our partners satisfy legal mandates and improve their management and conservation of natural and cultural resources. Our projects take us to fascinating sites of national and regional significance, such as the Apollo Mission Control Room at the NASA Johnson Space Center in Houston and ranches associated with the Wild West shows in Nebraska and Oklahoma.

We've seen the scope of projects increase dramatically this year. We are currently engaged in comprehensive historical research for Theodore Roosevelt National Park in North Dakota and Scotts Bluff National Monument in Nebraska. We're gearing up for a large, NPS-funded project that will produce historical markers, a website, and an outreach publication for the four World War II-era Japanese-American confinement sites in New Mexico. And we're involved in a project for Rocky Mountain National Park that combines vegetation restoration work, research on the history and management of invasive plant species in the park, and an environmental history field course focusing on one of the park's most popular, and ecologically disturbed, visitor sites.

Also notable is our growing involvement in history projects that allow us to stretch the definition of public lands. We're conducting oral histories for the Colorado Water Conservation Board about the 2013

Northern Colorado flood, focusing on how state, county, and municipal water managers prepared for and managed an environmental crisis that impacted urban and rural areas. We've also been involved in a project for CSU's Lory Student Center, researching and recommending displays for the remodeled building to reveal the university's history and legacy as a land-grant institution.

Our approach to funding is evolving over time, as we recognize limits to public funding. Increasingly, we are looking for private funding from corporate sponsors, foundations, and individual donors. About 15 percent of our current budget now comes from private sources. In addition to support for projects and programs, we are seeking donors to provide permanent endowment funding for the PLHC.

The PLHC has formalized its commitment to public programming by taking steps to revive the American West Program, a successful public history series at CSU that ran from the early 1970s to the turn of the 21st century. Jared Orsi, Associate Professor in History and a PLHC Council Member, launched the revival on March 6 with a lecture and slide show on his newly released book, *Citizen Explorer: The Life of Zebulon Pike* (Oxford, 2014).

We hope you enjoy reading about our work and will consider supporting our efforts. We look forward to hearing from you via email, phone, or social media.

— *Dr. Ruth M. Alexander*
PLHC Council Chair



Featured Project

Scotts Bluff National Monument - Historic Context Reports

Scotts Bluff National Monument is a unique geologic formation in the Nebraska panhandle that has served as an important landmark for American Indians, fur trappers and traders, migrants on the overland trails, homesteaders, tourists exploring the region, and the many people who call the twin cities of Scottsbluff and Gering home.

The Scotts Bluff staff is working with a team from the National Park Service's Harpers Ferry Center to conduct a complete redesign of the monument's dated 1960s-era museum exhibits. In order to provide a context and background history for the Harpers Ferry team, Superintendent Ken Mabery asked the PLHC to compile historic context reports on the history of the region and the monument from prehistory through the present. Scotts Bluff National Monument and PLHC staff approached three private, Nebraska-based foundations to raise the needed funds: the Cooper Foundation, the Peter Kiewit Foundation, and a third foundation that wishes to remain anonymous. We are very thankful for the generous funding provided by these three foundations, which makes this important research possible.

The PLHC team will produce twelve essays on such topics as geology, archaeology, American Indians, overland migration, irrigation, homesteading, memorialization of the monument, and the ongoing relationship between the monument and the surrounding communities. The NPS will use these essays as an interpretive database to inform its new museum exhibits and educational programs. As one of the PLHC's largest and most ambitious projects, it requires a diverse team of researchers and faculty, including Professors Ruth Alexander and Adrian Howkins as Principal Investigators, Adjunct Instructor Doug Sheflin and PLHC Program Assistant Hannah Braun as lead researchers, and Andrew Cabrall, Jordan Cooper, Nic Gunvaldson, Joel Scherer, and Kaitlyn Simcox as graduate student researchers.

To update the NPS, the community, and the general public on the team's progress, the PLHC has created a website at www.scottsbluffhistory.com. We invite you to visit the website to learn more about our team process and findings.

— *Hannah Braun*



PLHC researchers Hannah Braun and Nic Gunvaldson, Scotts Bluff superintendent Ken Mabery, PLHC project PI Dr. Ruth Alexander, and NPS Geologic Resources Division geologist Jason Kenworthy at Scotts Bluff National Monument during the PLHC's May site visit. (Photo by Maren Bzdek)

Grad Student Spotlight: Jordan Cooper

Jordan Cooper came to Colorado State University with a wide variety of experiences under her belt. From the age of ten, she knew she wanted to become a teacher. After earning her B.A. at Western State College in Gunnison, Colorado, she taught social studies, English, and P.E. for a private school in Gunnison. A competitive runner and cyclist, Cooper coached Western State's running club and Crested Butte Middle School's track and field team and is now a member of CSU's cycling team. In the fall of 2013, she began an M.A. program in History at CSU, with a concentration in Cultural Resource Management. Cooper is particularly interested in exploring cultural identity and one day working in public education at NPS sites.



In December 2013, Cooper began a project for Lory Student Center working with Professor Jared Orsi and PLHC Program Manager Maren Bzdek. As part of the LSC revitalization efforts, Cooper researched the LSC as a microcosm of CSU in the democratization of higher education in the United States. Cooper's product from her research was a 47-page report that the university will use to guide how it interprets the LSC. In the spring semester of 2014, Cooper worked with Dr. Robert Jordan's digital history class, where she provided guidance for undergraduate students who created digital elements to highlight the history of the LSC and CSU. The LSC will feature these elements when it reopens its remodeled facility in the fall of 2014.

This summer, Cooper has also worked with the PLHC's Scotts Bluff National Monument research team. Her essay for the project explores the history of American Indians in the western Nebraska region from 1870 up to the present. The essay allows Cooper to draw on her interest in cultural identity by exploring the ways in which American Indians have fought to keep their identity and traditions alive through the profoundly disruptive decades of reservation and post-reservation policy.

— *Hannah Braun*

Upcoming PLHC Events

New PLHC Website Launch

August 14, 2014

- publiclands.colostate.edu
- New PLHC logo and website, both designed by former College of Liberal Arts intern Matt Workman
- New digital projects section, including "History of Agricultural and Urban Water Use in Fort Collins"

Parks as Portals to Learning Field Course

August 17-23, 2014

Rocky Mountain National Park

History Brown Bag: Ranch House Redux-- Appreciating Your Baby Boomer House

Speakers: Dr. Janet Ore & Dr. Sarah Payne

September 25, 2014, 12-1pm

Greeley History Museum Community Room
714 8th Street, Greeley, CO

Working Together: 2013-2014 Collaborations in Review

First Advisory Board Meeting

The PLHC formed an Advisory Board in late 2013 to provide guidance for programmatic and strategic development decisions that will ensure the Center's permanency and long-term financial stability. Members of the board represent both internal and external constituents and viewpoints and provide critical feedback to the PLHC Council and staff as we work to cultivate meaningful partnerships and activities that benefit students, faculty, public agencies, the university, and the wider community. The group met on March 6, 2014 for a luncheon and planning session that resulted in new strategies for networking and outreach for the 2014-2015 academic year. Board members include emeritus CSU faculty and administrators John Albright, Loren Crabtree, James Hansen, and Dan Tyler; CSU supporters and alumni Mike Rosser, Melinda Merrill, and Robert Tate; CSU Associate Dean and Fort Collins City Council Member Wade Troxell; former President and CEO of the Colorado Historical Society, (now History Colorado), Georgianna Contiguglia, and the Director of the Center of the American West at CU-Boulder, Patricia Limerick. The board also benefits from the participation of two NPS liaisons, Ben Bobowski and Christine Whitacre, and Forest Service liaison Lincoln Bramwell.

— *Maren Bzdek*

Digital History Collaborations with CSU History Classes

In spring 2014, Dr. Robert Jordan and Dr. Sarah Payne offered two experimental courses in digital history, HIST480A5 for undergraduates and HIST580A1 for graduate students. These innovative new courses provided instruction on the significant works in digital history, explored broad concepts and controversies within the field, provided training across a wide array of digital tools, and served as a collaborative space for work on a large-scale, public history project. In the midst of year-long renovations of CSU's Lory Student

Center, the history department, the PLHC, university administrators, archivists and librarians from the Fort Collins and CSU archives, and undergraduate and graduate students worked collaboratively to produce digital, historical content to be showcased as part of the Fall 2014 grand opening of the renovated student center. Working together, students produced narrative content, composed of twelve physical markers linked to digital, web-based "brand stories" for use by the LSC on a website or mobile application.

Over the course of a single semester, students utilized a wide range of primary and secondary source materials and digital tools to create a dynamic, digital, public history project, learning new skills and gaining invaluable practical experience. This unique project gave graduate students essential experience in project and team management that will add significantly to their public history credentials and exposed undergraduates to higher levels of intellectual rigor brought to the project by the graduate students. The final product resulting from this innovative student project provides a link for past, present, and future Rams to their university and highlights the potential for collaborative, interdisciplinary courses empowered by new technologies.

— *Dr. Robert Jordan*



An architect's rendering of the revitalized Lory Student Center. (CSU image)

Working Together: 2013-2014 Collaborations in Review

Parks as Portals to Learning in Rocky Mountain National Park

Parks as Portals to Learning (PPL) is an interdisciplinary project in which students work as a part of a restoration crew and as researchers through a partnership with Rocky Mountain National Park (RMNP) led by PIs Ruth Alexander, Mark Fiege, and Adrian Howkins.



2014 PPL work crew: Kim Bauer, Ellen Blankers, and Alison Foster at Lily Lake. (Photo by Alison Foster)

Kim Bauer, Ellen Blankers, and Alison Foster worked on the restoration crew near Lily Lake to restore pile burn scars, which are the remnants of prescribed burns in the park used to thin hazard trees killed by pine beetles. Bauer graduates in August with a M.A. in History with concentrations in cultural resource management and historic preservation. Blankers is entering her second year in the History graduate program as a thesis student researching the environmental and religious educational programs at the YMCA of the Rockies in Estes Park.

When not in the field, Blankers and Bauer worked with Nicholas Shannon, a May 2014 graduate with a B.S. in Natural Resource Management and minor in Economics, on management briefs of priority exotic invasive plant species in the park. Each student produced two environmental histories with management recommendations that will be used by RMNP staff in

management decisions and to inform new employees. The PPL team was led by Alison Foster, who has a B.S. in environmental science from the University of Vermont and previous experience with the Bureau of Land Management and three National Park Service entities, including RMNP.

In August, the team will be joined by eight additional CSU students and seven faculty members who will participate in a week-long PPL field course focused on an innovative, interdisciplinary approach to identifying and addressing resource management and interpretive issues in the Moraine Park area. The course launched as a pilot program in 2013 with seven participating students and promises to develop as an ongoing core partnership activity with RMNP that will prepare students for agency careers and improve understanding within the academic community of applied environmental history and historic preservation.

— Alison Foster



Participants of the 2013 PPL field course in Moraine Park. (Photo by Maren Bzdek)

Research Project Updates

Administrative Histories

FRICO Administrative History

Researcher Hayley Brazier is completing a book-length narrative history of the Farmers Reservoir and Irrigation Company, headquartered in Brighton, Colorado. The project's principal investigators are Dr. Mark Fiege, Professor of History, and Dr. Reagan Waskom, Director of the Colorado Water Institute. The book incorporates oral histories, company documents, and archival research to tell a corporate and western story spanning the late-nineteenth-century to present day. Since its incorporation in 1902, FRICO has become one of the largest private irrigation companies in Colorado and the nation. Brazier is contextualizing FRICO within the history of the American West to enrich the company's story. In the past fifty years, FRICO has become heavily involved in agricultural-to-urban water transfer, and its history provides an opportunity to illuminate the complexities of increasing urbanization as it relates to water use on the Front Range. The book will contribute to a growing field of research on the history of water in Colorado and is slated for completion in 2014.

— *Hayley Brazier*

History of Mortgage Banking Industry in Colorado and Kansas

Researcher Diane Sanders is working as a co-author for CSU alum and PLHC Advisory Board member Mike Rosser to finalize a history of the mortgage banking industry in Colorado and Kansas. Dr. Mark Fiege provided consultation on the project, which highlights the important but underemphasized role that financing played in the settlement and development of the American West. Mr. Rosser's own professional experiences, as well as those of his father and colleagues, provide a lens for this regional examination

of the larger story. As a related product of his years of research on this subject, Rosser is also working with the Department of Archives and Special Collections at Morgan Library to develop a collection that will assist future researchers interested in the history of mortgage banking and micro-financing for homesteaders.

— *Hannah Braun*

Digital History Projects

History of Agricultural and Urban Water Use in Fort Collins

PLHC researchers have finished an educational website that uses Fort Collins and the surrounding area as a case study to explore the history of ag-to-urban water transfer in the Cache la Poudre River Basin. The website, funded by the Colorado Agricultural Experiment Station, examines 150 years of cooperation and competition for water between agricultural users, municipal users, and recreational users in Fort Collins as the its population grew. The project provided opportunities for many CSU students to gain experience in digital history. Project PI Dr. Mark Fiege and fifteen researchers and CSU students conceptualized the site and contributed research and content development: Ashley Baranyk, Hannah Braun, Maren Bzdek, Paul Higashi, Cori Knudten, Krista Maroudas, Naomi Gerakios Mucci, Jason O'Brien, Blake Stewart, Jacquelyn Stiverson, Clarissa Trapp, Katie Updyke, and Jaci Wells. This past spring, four members of the graduate-level digital history class taught by PLHC Council member Dr. Sarah Payne researched, wrote articles, and created visuals for the urban water use section of the site. "History of Agricultural and Urban Water Use in Fort Collins," http://publiclands.colostate.edu/digital_projects/dp/poudre-river/, is accessible as a major component of the Center's redesigned website.

— *Clarissa Trapp*

Research Project Updates

Historic Reports

Theodore Roosevelt National Park Historic Resource Study

The Theodore Roosevelt National Park Historic Resource study continues to move forward. Mark Fiege, Janet Ore, and Jared Orsi are serving as PIs, and Dr. Clara Keyt and Jacquelyn Stiverson as researchers. Our task is to provide baseline historical data to aid the park in managing its historic resources. The team is working at the cutting edge of some of PLHC's deepest values. As a co-authored report, the HRS has encouraged us to devise mechanisms for truly collaborative work that minimizes hierarchy and takes advantage of each team member's distinctive capabilities. Because the park seeks to preserve both the historical legacy of the Roosevelt era in North Dakota (ca. 1880s) and to manage a living ecosystem, the project enables us to test environmental history's potential to help parks reconcile cultural and natural resource stewardship.

Finally, we are confronting important contemporary issues. Adjacent to an area of extensive fracking, Theodore Roosevelt National Park is one of the nation's most embattled parks, as lucrative drilling operations attract thousands of temporary and permanent residents and introduce challenges in park management of hydrology, visitation, wildlife movement, viewsheds, and soundscapes. Thus current events at the park highlight the relevance of historical study to contemporary management alternatives. Team members took three research trips to the park in 2013-14 and met regularly to conceptualize the study. We submitted a draft project outline, written by former researcher John Kochanczyk in February, and are starting to write chapters this summer. We expect to produce a 300-page report by the end of 2015.

— Dr. Jared Orsi



Wild horses graze at Theodore Roosevelt National Park. (Photo by Maren Bzdek)



Oil derricks on a ridge visible from Theodore Roosevelt National Park. Increased drilling operations near the park have created many challenging management issues for park staff. (Photo by John Kochanczyk)

Research Project Updates

Apollo Mission Control Historic Furnishings Report

Under the direction of Dr. Janet Ore, PLHC Program Manager Maren Bzdek is preparing a report to document the historic appearance of Apollo Mission Control, a National Historic Landmark at Johnson Space Center in Houston, Texas. The report emphasizes two interior spaces, the Mission Control Center and Viewing Room, and will require descriptions of the Apollo-era objects, furniture, wall and floor coverings, furniture, light fixtures, window treatments, clothing, books, documentation used at the computer consoles, and accessory items. In August, Bzdek will join NPS interpretive specialists to conduct a two-day workshop with NASA staff from Johnson Space Center to review interpretive objectives for this important site as the agency prepares for implementation of recommendations in the furnishings report.

— Maren Bzdek



The Apollo Mission Control Room at the Johnson Space Center in Houston. (Photo by Maren Bzdek)

National Register Projects

Wild West Shows National Historic Landmark Nomination

Researcher Hannah Braun and Professor Janet Ore are working on a project for the Heritage Partnerships Program of the National Park Service to write a National Historic Landmark nomination for the Wild West shows. This project involves site visits to two ranches owned by men who operated Wild West shows: Blue Hawk Peak Ranch in Pawnee, Oklahoma, home of Gordon “Pawnee Bill” Lillie, and Scout’s Rest Ranch in North Platte, Nebraska, home of William F. “Buffalo Bill” Cody. Both sites are on the National Register and are owned by their respective state parks agencies.

Braun is conducting extensive research on the lives of William F. Cody and Gordon Lillie, and the history of Wild West shows from the 1880s through the early 1900s. The nomination will analyze Blue Hawk Peak Ranch and Scout’s Rest Ranch and select one of the sites as the National Historic Landmark.



The 1887 barn at Scout’s Rest Ranch in North Platte, Nebraska, home of W. F. “Buffalo Bill” Cody. Cody had the name of his ranch painted across the barn roof so that passengers on the train, a mile and a half away, could see it. (Photo by Hannah Braun)

Research Project Updates

In May of 2014, Ore and Braun made a site visit to North Platte to meet with staff at Scout's Rest Ranch and tour this beautiful historic property, which consists of an 1886 Italianate mansion, large 1887 barn, outbuildings, and original pond and landscaping. In early August, Braun accompanied Shirl Kasper from the NPS Heritage Partnerships Program and Lynda Ozan from the Oklahoma State Historic Preservation Office on a site visit to Blue Hawk Peak Ranch. This property includes a 1910 bungalow, stone barn, blacksmith shop, and other outbuildings. The property is also home to Clydesdale horses, longhorn and shorthorn cattle, and American bison, all of which Lillie raised on the ranch in the early 20th century.

— *Hannah Braun*

Zion National Park Historic District Amendment

Dr. Janet Ore and researcher Jason O'Brien are in the process of amending the National Register form for Oak Creek Historic District in Zion National Park. The amendment project is meant to inventory landscape features associated with the historic structures in the Oak Creek Historic District. The field inventory and archival research will provide the basis for an amendment arguing for the significance of the features within the context of the work of the Civilian Conservation Corps in Zion National Park and the "NPS Rustic/Naturalistic Design" aesthetic that dominated the park system for many years. The amendment will help protect contributing features within these contexts that were previously left out of the Multiple Resources nomination for the District.

In early June, Ore and O'Brien took a research trip out to the park, where they had the wonderful opportunity to stay in the Grotto Cabin up in the scenic canyon. Built in 1924 and formerly a museum, it is the oldest NPS structure in Zion. It was O'Brien's first visit to Zion, and he enjoyed staying in the Grotto Cabin, where at night he was all by himself in the stunning

scenic canyon, with no TV, internet, or even cell service, with Red Arch Mountain and the Great White Throne as a backyard, and flocks of turkeys walking around in the morning. He enjoyed the beauty of the canyon, the Virgin River, and the small streams and springs make Zion a unique oasis in a desert.

O'Brien had the opportunity to meet with Zion's Cultural Resource Management department headed by Sarah Horton. They have created an innovative, dynamic, and enthusiastic department, undertaking such controversial and forward thinking projects as restoring two homesteading cabins in a designated wilderness section of the Kolob Canyons portion of the park. Moreover, they have created apps and other software in-house, including one designed by Russell Cash that O'Brien used for inventorying, ensuring that technology is an important part of their work.

— *Jason O'Brien*



NPS staff Sarah Horton and Russell Cash with researcher Jason O'Brien at Zion. (Photo by Janet Ore)

Research Project Updates

Oral History Projects

2013 Colorado Flood Oral History Project

During September 11-15, 2013, the skies poured down on much of Northern Colorado. The St. Vrain Creek, Left Hand Creek, the Poudre River, the Big Thompson River and a number of smaller creeks, rivers, and tributaries all swelled and overflowed far beyond their normal capacity, causing flooding from the small mountain town of Glen Haven to the plains of Crook, Colorado. The raging water destroyed thousands of homes and businesses, caused two billion dollars in property damage in seventeen different counties, and killed eight individuals.

This summer, research associates at the PLHC are creating a collection of oral history interviews that document last fall's flooding. The mission of the 2013 Northern Colorado Flood Oral History Project is to gather oral history interviews on the flood in order to promote effective flood preparation, mitigation, recovery, and management in the future. This oral history collection is a joint partnership between the Colorado Water Conservation Board (CWCB), the Water Resources Archive at CSU's Morgan Library, and the Public Lands History Center. The project is funded by the Colorado Water Conservation Board, whose mission is to conserve, develop, protect, and manage Colorado's water for present and future generations. The PI for this project is Dr. Ruth Alexander, who is working closely with the project coordinator, Naomi Gerakios Mucci, Water Resources Archivist Patty Rettig, and PLHC researchers Zach Lewis, Tessa Moening, and Mitchell Schaefer. To date the team has completed eight interviews that range from flood victims, to the head of dam-safety for the state of Colorado, to city managers and emergency response officials.

— Naomi Gerakios Mucci

Grant-Kohrs Ranch National Historic Site Oral History Project

Researcher Janell Byczkowski, along with Dr. Janet Ore as PI, began the Grant-Kohrs Ranch Oral History Project in the fall of 2013 to document the history of irrigation at the Grant-Kohrs National Historic Site in Montana and conduct oral histories. The study will provide the park with information about the site's irrigation history and show how that story compares to regional and national stories of ranch irrigation. An important part of the history is the relationship of the park to two mutual irrigation companies—West Side Ditch Company and Kohrs-Manning Ditch Company. The oral histories conducted with the members of the ditch companies are crucial to understanding the physical changes of the ditches and irrigation practices. The park will use the final report to inform park interpretation and management decisions.

— Janell Byczkowski



One of the many ditches at Grant-Kohrs Ranch National Historic Site in Montana. (Photo by Janell Byczkowski)

Support the PLHC!

Our Mission:

The PLHC models an alternative collaborative structure for the 21st century with our partners and researchers based on shared authority, reciprocity, public engagement, and a non-hierarchical approach to knowledge production.

Our Values:

Collaboration • Useful Knowledge • Education • Resource Stewardship • Innovation • Community

Our Future:

The Public Lands History Center gratefully accepts donations from individuals and organizations who wish to support our efforts to produce historical knowledge for resource managers, scientists, and citizens who bear responsibility for understanding and protecting public lands and resources. All donations are tax deductible. For more information and to donate, please visit publiclands.colostate.edu/donate.

Your Contributions Support:

- **A new 21st Century Model for Doing History**
- **Environmental Education Efforts**
- **Revival of the American West Program**
- **Professional Training and Research Opportunities for Students**

Thank you to all of our recent supporters and partners!

Ruth M. Alexander
 Don D. Anderson
 Maren T. Bzdek
 Jonathan Clifton
 Georgiana Contiguglia
 Kim Corbin-Lewis
 Mark Fiege
 James Hansen
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 Adrian Howkins
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 CSU Department of History
 CSU Lory Student Center
 CSU School of Global Environmental Sustainability
 CSU University Archive
 CSU Water Resources Archive
 The Dr. Scholl Foundation
 Farmers Reservoir and Irrigation Company
 National Park Service
 National Science Foundation
 The Peter Kiewit Foundation
 U.S. Forest Service

Center Notes

The PLHC congratulates our current researchers who are 2014 graduates from their programs in History: **Kim Bauer** (M.A.), **Janell Byczkowki** (M.A.) **Naomi Gerakios Mucci** (M.A.), **Paul Higashi** (B.A.) **Tessa Moening** (M.A.), **Jason O'Brien** (M.A.), **Joel Scherer** (M.A.), **Diane Sanders** (M.A.), and **Jackie Stiverson** (M.A.).

Along with Sharon Block and Mary Beth Norton, PLHC Council Chair **Ruth Alexander** co-edited *Major Problems in American Women's History: Documents and Essays* (Boston: Cengage, 5th edition, 2014).

PLHC Council Chair **Ruth Alexander** presented "An Environmental History of Abortion in the United States, 1945 to the Present" and PLHC Council Member **Sarah Payne** presented "A Hard Pill to Swallow: Women, Nature, and Hormonal Contraceptives" in a panel at the Annual Meeting of the American Society for Environmental History, March 13, 2014.

Former PLHC researcher **Avana Andrade** (B.A. 2012; M.A. in progress at Yale School of Forestry and Environmental Studies) is interning in Hamburg, Germany for the Baltic Environmental Forum on a grasslands conservation project. Andrade is studying the grasslands in Latvia, Lithuania, and Estonia, focusing on how other non-profits have approached conservation in a post-communist landscape. At the end of the summer, she will provide the Forum with a comparative analysis of American and European grassland management models.

Former PLHC researcher **Jim Bertolini** (M.A. 2011) is starting a new position in August as the National/State Register Coordinator for the Nevada State Historic Preservation Office.

Hannah Braun (M.A. 2012), a former PLHC researcher with the Poudre Digital History project, returned to the PLHC in May as Program Assistant and Research Associate. In addition to PLHC administrative duties, she is also working on the Scotts Bluff Historic Context Reports and Wild West shows NHL projects.

Researcher **Hayley Brazier** (M.A. 2013) recently accepted a position as Program Coordinator at Factor(E) Ventures Ltd., a not-for-profit accelerator based out of CSU's Energy Institute.

PLHC Program Manager **Maren Bzdek** contributed "The Cache La Poudre River Digital History Project: Using Digital Environmental History for Collaboration and Engagement" to *Public History in a Changing Climate*, a digital publication of the Public History Commons in collaboration with The Public Historian (National Council on Public History, 2014): 8-9.

Former PLHC Grant-Kohrs Ranch NHS intern **Jenny Deichman** (M.A. 2013) is interning with the City of Brighton, Colorado to digitize the city's historical documents and to assess agricultural properties the city wants to survey for designation. She is also working with Historic Denver's citywide survey through Discover Denver, writing a historic context for Denver's Harvey Park neighborhood, and completing architectural inventories on residential properties.

Former PLHC researcher **Christy Dickinson** (M.A. 2013), now a Historian with the Heritage Partnerships Program of the National Park Service, was selected to attend the Yale Public History Institute during July 20-24. It was hosted by the Gilder Lehrman Center for the Study of Slavery, Resistance, and Abolition at Yale University, and the Smithsonian National Museum of African American History and Culture.

Center Notes

PLHC Council Member **Mark Fiege** has been awarded the endowed Wallace Stegner Chair in Western Studies at Montana State University for the Spring of 2015.

PLHC Council Members **Mark Fiege**, **Adrian Howkins**, and **Jared Orsi** edited *National Parks Beyond the Nation: Global Perspectives on the History of "America's Best Idea"* (forthcoming from University of Oklahoma Press, 2014 or 2015).

Former PLHC researcher **Nichelle Frank** (M.A. 2012), began a history Ph.D. program at the University of Oregon in the fall of 2013.

In late 2013, Golden History Museums in Golden, Colorado, published *Inside the Astor House*, a history of one of its historic properties. Former PLHC researcher **Nichelle Frank** (M.A. 2012) and current PLHC researcher **Jackie Stiverson** (M.A. 2014) both contributed chapters to the book. Frank's chapter, "Architectural Survival in a Dynamic Western Town," explores the architectural history of the Astor House, while Stiverson's chapter, "Seth Lake: Entrepreneur and Civic Leader" focuses on the life of the man who built the Astor House in 1867.

Former PLHC Grant-Kohrs Ranch NHS intern **Alex Hernandez** (M.A. 2011), was hired for a 90-day detail as the Cultural Resources Management Specialist for Rocky Mountain National Park. This temporary reassignment will last from June-September, after which she will return to her permanent position as Assistant Program Manager/Historian for the NPS Japanese American Confinement Sites Grant Program in Denver.

PLHC Council Member **Adrian Howkins** presented "The Science of Sovereignty and the Sovereignty of Science: The Challenges and Opportunities of Antarctic Environmental History" at the Annual Meeting of the American Society for Environmental History, March 14, 2014.

Former PLHC researcher **Catherine Moore** (M.A. 2009) recently accepted a position as Director of Finance and Operations for the Penobscot Marine Museum in Searsport, Maine.

Former PLHC Grant-Kohrs Ranch NHS intern **Lori Nohner** (M.A. 2013), started a new job in March as the Museum Manager of the Pioneer Trails Regional Museum in Bowman, North Dakota. Nohner and the museum received a grant for \$20,000 from the State Historical Society of North Dakota, which, along with \$20,000 in matching funds from Bowman County, will be used to retrofit the museum's lighting system with new LED fixtures.

PLHC Council Member **Jared Orsi**'s book *Citizen Explorer: The Life of Zebulon Pike* was published this year by Oxford University Press.

Former PLHC marketing and development coordinator **Mary Swanson** (M.A. 2009) became the Associate Director of the Office for Undergraduate Research and Artistry at Colorado State University in August 2013.

PLHC Council

Ruth Alexander, Council Chair & Professor of History
Mark Fiege, Professor of History
Adrian Howkins, Associate Professor of History
Janet Ore, Associate Professor of History
Jared Orsi, Associate Professor of History
Sarah Payne, Assistant Professor of History

PLHC Affiliates

Jim Barborak, Center for Protected Area Management & Training
Janet Bishop, Archives & Special Collections
SueEllen Campbell, Professor of English
David Cooper, Forest & Rangeland Ecology
Ryan Finchum, Center for Protected Area Management & Training
Robert Jordan, Instructor of History
Clara Keyt, Instructor of History
Steve Leisz, Assistant Professor of Geography
Kelly Long, Associate Professor of History
Linda Meyer, Agriculture & Natural Resources Archive
Patty Rettig, Water Resources Archive
Jason Sibold, Assistant Professor of Geography
Peter Taylor, Associate Professor of Sociology
Mary Van Buren, Associate Professor of Anthropology
Reagan Waskom, Colorado Water Institute

The PLHC would also like to thank the Dean's Office in the College of Liberal Arts for ongoing encouragement and support. History Department Chair **Doug Yarrington** and department staff, **Nancy Rehe** and **Charlene Spencer**, provide critical administrative collaboration and assistance.

PLHC Staff

Research Associates

Maren Bzdek, Program Manager
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